

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3010

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, CA, US, XJ

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: VANCOUVER PRESS COMMENT ON SECRETARY
KISSINGERS AFRICA TRIP

1. VANCOUVER SUN SEPTEMBER 15 LEAD EDITORIAL, "TROPHY HUNTING", WHILE FEARING THAT THE "SLIDE TOWARD RACE WAR IN SOUTHERN AFRICA HAS GONE TOO FAR TO PERMIT OPTIMISM". PRESUMES THAT DR. KISSINGER CAME AWAY FROM HIS LATEST TALKS WITH PM VORSTER CONVINCED THAT THERE IS STILL SOME HOPE FOR ACHIEVING A "MODERATE AND PEACEFUL EVOLUTION" OR OTHERWISE HE WOULD NOT BE UNDERTAKING THIS LATEST "DIPLOMATIC SHUTTLE".

2. EDITORIAL STATES THAT WHILE DR. KISSINGER "CAN BE EXPECTED TO SET HIMSELF SHORT-TERM GOALS, WITH THE AIM OF GAINING TIME" IN RHODESIA, SOUTH AFRICA AND SOUTH WEST AFRICA, HIS MAIN INITIATIVE CONCERNS RHODESIA. "IF DR. KISSINGER HAS NOT CHANGED HIS TIMETABLE SINCE HIS LAST TRIP TO AFRICA, IN APRIL, HE IS SEEKING A PEACEFUL TRANSFER TO A BLACK MAJORITY IN TWO YEARS. AS A SWEETNER, HE IS REPORTED TO BE OFFERING FINANCIAL GUARANTEES OF MORE THAN DOLS. 1.5 BILLION...TO AID THE SIX MILLION RHODESIAN BLACKS AND TO UNDERWRITE LOSS OF ASSETS BY THE COUNTRY S 270,000 WHITES."

3. EDITORIAL ALSO SAYS THAT "ANYTHING THE SCRETARY OF STATE
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CAN COME UP WITH WOULD NOT HURT PRESIDENT FORD S CHANCES OF

WINNING ELECTION IN HIS OWN RIGHT TO THE WHITE HOUSE--SORT OF A
1976 VERSION OF DR. KISSINGERS FAMOUS "PEACE IS AT HAND"
PLOY JUST BEFORE THE 1972 ELECTION."

4. ON UP-BEAT NOTE, EDITORIAL CONCLUDES BY SAYING "WHATEVER
THE MOTIVES, AND DESPITE THE DISCOURAGEMENTS, WE MUST HOPE THAT
DR. KISSINGERS SAFARI...WILL BAG THE ONLY USEFUL TROPHY--A
BREATHING SPACE IN THE RAPIDLY DETERIORATING SOUTHERN AFRICA
SITUATION."

5. EDITORIAL BEING SENT TO USIS OTTAWA.
LUPPI

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